

Religious Notices.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. H. W. Ballantine, Pastor. Public worship on the Sabbath at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday-School at 12 m. Sunday-School prayer-meeting Sabbath at 7 p. m. Weekly prayer-meeting Thursday, at 7:45 p. m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rev. Ezra L. Stone, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday-school at 12 m. The Lord's Supper on the first Sabbath of each month, close of morning service. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening. Young People's meeting, Tuesday evening at 7:45 p. m.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Rev. Albert Mann, Jr., Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday-school at 2:30 p. m. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7:45. Class meetings, Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7:45 o'clock.

WESLEYAN-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Friends Street corner Franklin.—Rev. S. W. Duffield, Pastor. Sabbath services, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school, 12 m. Weekly prayer meeting at 8 o'clock each Thursday evening in Chapel parlor.

CHRIST CHURCH (Episcopal)—Liberty street.—Rev. W. G. Farrington, D. D., Rector. Morning service, 10:30 o'clock. Second service, 7:30 p. m. except first Sunday in month, when it is at 3:45 p. m. Sunday school at 3 p. m.

HOPE CHAPEL.—Sunday school every Sabbath at 3:30 p. m. John G. Broughton, Superintendent.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART.—Rev. J. M. Nardiello, Pastor. First mass, 8:30 a. m. High mass, 10:30 a. m. Vespers, 3 p. m. Sunday school, 2:30 p. m.

BERKELEY UNION SABBATH SCHOOL.—Held in Berkley Schoolroom, Bloomfield avenue, every Sunday, at 7 p. m. John A. Skinner, Superintendent. All are welcome.

WATERSHED M. E. CHURCH.—Rev. J. K. Egbert, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school, 2:30 p. m. Class meeting Thursday evening at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting Tuesday evening at 7:45 p. m. Children's class for religious instruction Saturday at 3 p. m.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, (Watervising.) Rev. James F. Pance, Rector. Service, Sunday 10:45 a. m., 7:45 p. m. Sunday school, at 9:30 a. m. Seats free. All are invited.

GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. John M. Enslin, Pastor. Hours of service, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school 2 p. m. Prayer meeting, Tuesday evening at 7:45.

REFORMED CHURCH (Brookdale).—Rev. William G. E. See, Pastor. Sabbath service, 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school, 9 a. m. E. G. Day, Superintendent. Prayer meeting, Wednesday evening.

SILVER LAKE.—Sabbath school held every Sunday, in the hall, at 3 p. m. Mr. Herbert Smith, Superintendent. Gospel meeting every Sabbath evening at 7:30 o'clock. Prayer and Conversation meeting Wednesday evening.

St. Mark's Church (Bloomfield Ave.)—Sunday services: Preaching at 10:30 a. m. Rev. Mr. F. J. Smith, Sabbath school 3 p. m. E. A. Smith Sup't. Preaching 7:30 p. m., Rev. J. H. Cooley.

The Water Pressure.

To The Citizen:

As the citizens of Bloomfield feel the same interest in the Water Works as those of East Orange, the Water Company furnishes the following information in regard to the pressure, viz:

"On the question of water pressure the Water Company leave nothing to chance or guess work. At the water works are two water pressure gauges, which the engineers watch day and night, as carefully as the steam gauges on the boilers. In addition there is at the President's office, in Mum's avenue, a recording water pressure gauge recording the exact pressure every moment of the day and night. This record is made on a paper disk moved by clockwork, divided into pressure lines and twenty-four hour spaces, which are numbered so that the pressure of any particular hour or minute can be seen, and this disk is taken off every day, dated and filed away. The location of this gauge is at one of the highest points of the pipe system, and the pressure there shown is of course the lightest of any point. The pressure at the time of the fire at National Hall and also at Seabury & Johnson's, was fully up to the required fire standard. An additional precaution is an automatic steam whistle at the pumping works, which blows a warning signal whenever the water pressure falls below the set figure. This whistle did not blow at any time during the night of either fire."

THE ORANGE WATER CO.

Midwinter Baptism.

To The Citizen:

The following incident will be of interest to some of our Bloomfield people, as Mr. H. B. Maurer, whose name is here mentioned, was at one time a student in the Bloomfield Theological Seminary, and also a member of the Bloomfield Baptist church. The item is taken from a Hempstead, L. I. paper, where Mr. Maurer was pastor for some time.

A MID-WINTER BAPTISMAL SCENE.

This occurred at Berlin, New York, with Mr. H. B. Maurer as administrator. The place was a large spring of clear water, in a picturesque valley amid the mountains of that vicinity. Numerous sleighs brought spectators from a distance and a large crowd came on foot from the village. These, taking positions around the spring, surrounded by snow, were obliged to keep in motion, like so many Shakers, tramping their feet in order to keep warm, for the thermometer was exactly at zero.

The administrator with head uncovered, stood in the water up to his waist, reciting a few appropriate selections from Scripture. Then he led each of the nine candidates into the water while the people sang, and on a profession of their faith, baptized them. Five of these were females. All engaged in the transaction were then taken to their homes in their wet clothes. The only annoyance felt from the cold was on the part of the spectators, some of whom had their ears and toes frozen, and on the part of the administrator, who, when he arrived at home, could not for some time unbutton his baptismal robe, which had frozen to his body. None of the candidates complained of the cold in the least, and were out to the evening church service well and happy. In that part of the country all baptisms by the Baptists are out-doors at all times of the year. Truly in our region such a scene would be a novelty.

LITERARY NOTES.

Dr Holmes to the Blind.—The following dedication has been expressly written by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes for a good sized volume of selections from his poetical works, which is soon to be issued by the Howe Memorial Press of the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind, in Boston. We are informed that the value of this edition has been enhanced by the fact that many of the poetical pearls included in it have been selected by the author himself.

Dear friends, left darkling in the long eclipse That veils the noonday—where your finger-tips A meaning in these ridgy leaves can find Where ours go stumbling, senseless, helpless, blind.—

This wreath of verse how dare I offer you To whom the garden's choicest gifts are due?

The hues of all its glowing beds are ours— Shall you not claim its sweetest-smelling flowers?

Nay, those I have I bring you; at their birth Life's cheerful sunshine warmed the grateful earth;

If my rash boyhood dropped some hideous seeds, And here and there you light on saucy weeds Among the fair growths, remember still Sun comes of grace and not of human will;

We get a jarring note when most we try. Then strike the chord we know not how or why.

Our stately verse with too aspiring art Oft overshoots and fails to reach the heart,

While the rude rhyme one human throb encards.

Turns grief to smiles and softens mirth to tears.

Kindest of critics, ye whose fingers read,

From Nature's lesson learn the poet's creed;

The queenly tulip flaunts in robes of flame,

The wayside seedling scarce a tint may claim,

Yet may the lowliest leaflets that unfold

A dew-drop fresh from heaven's own chalice hold.

* * * Dr. Howard Crosby and Professor A. A. Hodge will discuss the subject of church union from the Presbyterian view in the March *Century*.

The Ticknors have prepared a unique anniversary of the seventy-ninth anniversary of Longfellow's birth, February 26, by arranging to issue his biography on that day.

December, January and February, are three pretty volumes of verses compiled by that faithful and industrious author, Oscar Fay Adams. Each volume is devoted to the month whose name it bears. The selections have been made with taste and judgment, and give in a limited compass the best and most appropriate poems of the seasons; many of the selections are here printed for the first time.

—Peck, of the Milwaukee *Sun*, who has leaped into wealth and a certain kind of fame by his history of the "Bad Boy," is said to receive a larger yearly income from his newspaper work than Emerson realized during his entire life.

—Two books on America are soon to be published in England, the first a history of the United States from the foundation of Virginia to the reconstruction of the union, in two volumes, by Percy Gregg; and the second an illustrated account of emigrant life in Kansas, written from personal experience by Percy Gregg.

—Messrs. White, Stokes & Allen and E. P. Dutton & Co. are both busily engaged in the preparation of their Easter publications, which this year will almost entirely take the form of illustrated cards and appropriate poems. The selection, it is promised, will be as varied as it gives evidence of being rich, although neither house looks for more than a brisk trade for the approaching holy day.

—A "life" of the late Henry W. Shaw, (Josh Billings) is in course of preparation and will probably receive publication during the spring. The work will contain many of the humorist's experiences on his lecturing tours and summer journeys, beside several pages of his selected savings of "condensed philosophy." Mr. Elwood J. Bishop will edit the volume.

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